

No. R-88. House concurrent resolution commemorating the sescentennial anniversary of the town of Bolton.

(H.C.R.57)

Offered by: Representatives Stevens of Waterbury, Ellis of Waterbury, Frank of Underhill, and Till of Jericho

Whereas, on June 7, 1763, Royal New Hampshire Governor Benning Wentworth issued a charter to 72 proprietors, granting them the right to establish the town of Bolton with boundaries partially described in the document as “Begining at the South East Corner of Jerico on the Northerly side of Onion River (so called) from thence Easterly runing up said River, so far as to make six Miles on a Line Perpendicular with the South Easterly Line of said Jerico,” and

Whereas, the first meeting of the proprietors occurred at the home of Samuel Canfield in New Milford, Connecticut on May 16, 1770, at which gathering, Samuel Averill was elected clerk, and

Whereas, settlement began after the Revolutionary War, and by 1791, the population of Bolton totaled 88 persons, and

Whereas, the first Bolton Town Meeting took place on the second Tuesday of March 1794 at the home of James Moore, at which the voters selected Samuel Bell as moderator and Jabez Jones as town clerk, and Mr. Jones was also the first representative from Bolton to serve in the General Assembly, and

Whereas, the General Assembly altered the original Bolton boundaries first on October 27, 1794 when it annexed a part of Huntington to Bolton, but legal disputes caused legislative reversal of this decision, and on October 25, 1804, legislation was enacted, annexing a segment of Bolton to Richmond, and

Whereas, farming, lumbering, and saw mills were all part of the early Bolton economy, and

Whereas, perhaps one of the most important events affecting Bolton in the 19th century was construction of the Central Vermont Railroad through the town along the northern bank of the Winooski River, and

Whereas, this construction project was not without incident as on July 3, 1846, 200 Irish immigrant railroad workers walked off the job in protest for having not been paid for three months, and a militia company was called in before calm was restored by a Catholic priest, and

Whereas, Bolton has developed over the decades as a scenic Vermont town with a rugged and mountainous terrain which offers many outdoor recreational opportunities, and

Whereas, June 7, 2013 will mark 250 years since the town of Bolton was established, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly commemorates the sescentennial anniversary of the town of Bolton, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Bolton Town Clerk.